

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of rendering a multimedia signal (401; 409), the multimedia signal comprising[[:]] events (407) of a first type arranged to carry content in the form of instructions to a rendering unit[[:]] and an event (406) of a second type arranged to carry additional content (410), wherein said additional content comprises an address identifying an encoded sample of multimedia content[[:]], wherein the method comprises the following steps:

generating a multimedia output in response to the events of the first type;

parsing (602) the multimedia signal (401; 409) to identify said event (406) of the second type and to read the additional content (410);

loading (607) the encoded sample of multimedia content (402) identified by said address;

decoding (611) the encoded sample to provide a decoded sample for playback of the multimedia content; and

superimposing (609) the decoded sample on the generated multimedia output in accordance with timing information associated [[to]] with the event of the second type.

2. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 1, wherein the timing information comprises a delta time value defining a time relative to a reference time.

3. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the event of the second type includes a textual information of one or more predetermined commands, the one or more commands identifying an encoded sample.

4. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein ~~the step of~~ superimposing ~~comprises synchronising~~ includes synchronizing the decoded sample with the multimedia output based on the timing information.

5. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein the multimedia signal and the encoded sample are ~~comprised~~ included in a container data item.

6. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, wherein the event (406) of the second type comprises a System Exclusives event as defined in the specification of the Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI).

7. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, wherein the event (406) of the second type comprises a Meta-event as defined in the specification of the Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI).

8. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 7, wherein the event (406) of the second type comprises a Meta-event of the type cue-points, identified by the hexadecimal value FF 07.

9. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 7, wherein the event (406) of the second type comprises a Meta-event of the type lyric, identified by the hexadecimal value FF 05.

10. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 7, wherein the event (406) of the second type comprises a Meta-event of the type text, identified by the hexadecimal value FF 01.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1, wherein ~~[[an]]~~ the address indicates a position in a first file ~~(402; 303)~~ associated with the multimedia signal.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 11~~ claim 11, wherein the multimedia signal is stored in a second file ~~(302)~~.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 12~~ claim 1, wherein the additional content comprises an indication of ~~the type of the~~ a type of coding scheme used for encoding the encoded samples.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 13~~ claim 1, wherein the multimedia signal complies with the general Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI) specification.

15. (Currently Amended) A unit for rendering a multimedia signal ~~(401; 409)~~, the multimedia signal comprising~~[[:]]~~ events ~~(407)~~ of a first type which are arranged to carry content in the form of instructions to the unit~~[[:]]~~, and an event ~~(406)~~ of a second type arranged to carry additional content, wherein said additional content comprises an address identifying an encoded sample of multimedia content~~[[:]]~~, wherein the unit comprises:

a playback unit ~~(202)~~ adapted to generate a multimedia output in response to the events of the first type;

a parser ~~(201)~~ arranged to identify the event ~~(406)~~ of the second type and to read the additional content ~~(410)~~;

an interface ~~(204)~~ arranged to load the encoded sample of multimedia content identified by said address, and to cause a decoder to decode the decoded sample for subsequent playback of the multimedia content; and

a ~~synchronising~~ synchronizing unit ~~(210)~~ adapted to ~~synchronise~~ synchronize playback of the decoded sample with the generation of the multimedia output.

16. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to ~~claim 4~~ claim 15, wherein the multimedia signal complies with the general Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI) specification.

17. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to claim 15 ~~or 16~~, wherein the timing information comprises a delta time value defining a time relative to a reference time.

18. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to ~~any one of claims 15 to 17~~ claim 15, wherein the event of the second type includes a textual information of one or more predetermined commands, the one or more commands identifying an encoded sample.

19. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to ~~any one of claims 15 to 18~~ claim 15, wherein the multimedia signal and the encoded sample are comprised in a container data item.

20. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to ~~any one of claims 15 to 19~~ claim 15, wherein the event (406) of the second type comprises a System Exclusives event as defined in the specification of the Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI).

21. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to ~~any one of claims 15 to 19~~ claim 15, wherein the event (406) of the second type comprises a Meta-event as defined in the specification of the Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI).

22. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to claim 21, wherein the event (406) of the second type comprises a Meta-event of the type cue-points, identified by the hexadecimal value FF 07.

23. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to claim 21, wherein the event (406) of the second type comprises a Meta-event of the type lyric, identified by the hexadecimal value FF 05.

24. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to claim 21, wherein the event (406) of the second type comprises a Meta-event of the type text, identified by the hexadecimal value FF 01.

25. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to ~~any one of claims 15 to 24~~ claim 15, wherein an address indicates a position in a first file (402; 303) associated with the multimedia signal.

26. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to ~~any of claims 15 to 25,~~ claim 25 wherein the multimedia signal is stored in a second file (302).

27. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to ~~any one of claims 15 to 26~~ claim 15, wherein the additional content comprises an indication of ~~the type of the a~~ a type of coding scheme used for encoding the encoded samples.

28. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising program code means ~~adapted to perform the method according to any one of claims 1 through 14, when said program code means are executed on a data processing device,~~ said computer program product rendering a multimedia signal, the multimedia signal comprising events of a first type arranged to carry content in the form of instructions to a rendering unit and an event of a second type arranged to carry additional content, wherein said additional content comprises an address identifying an encoded sample of multimedia content, wherein the program code means is adapted to:

generate a multimedia output in response to the events of the first type;
parse the multimedia signal to identify the event of the second type and to read the additional content;
load the encoded sample of multimedia content identified by the address;

decode the encoded sample to provide a decoded sample for playback of the multimedia content; and

superimpose the decoded sample on the generated multimedia output in accordance with timing information associated with the event of the second type.